Nick Kauzlarich

From: Nick Kauzlarich

Sent: Friday, June 15, 2018 10:30 AM

To: Nick Kauzlarich

Subject: U.S. sanctions Hun Sen's bodyguard commander; CNRP to hold rallies across globe

Hello,

Below is a summary of recent news around the rapidly deteriorating state of democracy and human rights in Cambodia. Leaders with the Cambodia National Rescue Party (CNRP) are available to discuss developments.

- The U.S. Treasury invoked the Magnitsky Act to <u>impose targeted sanctions</u> against Cambodian General Hing Bun Hieng for "a series of human rights abuses," marking the first time the U.S. has sanctioned a member of Prime Minister Hun Sen's inner circle. The Treasury Department's <u>release</u> cited Bun Hieng, who is the commander of Hun Sen's bodyguard unit, and his connection to a 1997 grenade attack on an opposition rally that killed 16 people and wounded more than 100.
- The CNRP will <u>hold rallies</u> across the world to call attention to the Cambodian government's refusal to reinstate
 the CNRP and urge Japan, the <u>main international funder</u> of Cambodia's electoral process, to withdraw all
 election assistance. On Saturday, the CNRP and over 500 supporters will rally outside the Permanent Mission of
 Japan to the UN in New York City, with further demonstrations planned in Tokyo, Paris, and South Korea. You
 can watch the New York City rally via CNRP America's <u>Facebook Live</u>.
- The Cambodian National Police threatened to take legal action against opposition figures leading a "clean finger campaign" on social media encouraging voters to boycott next month's national elections. The Cambodian government's latest threat to free speech comes as the UN <u>called on</u> Cambodian authorities to respect the right to boycott, noting that voting is not compulsory.
- The ASEAN Parliamentarians for Human Rights <u>released a statement</u> calling Cambodia's upcoming national elections "not legitimate" unless the CNRP is allowed to participate and all political prisoners, including CNRP leader Kem Sokha, are freed. "The government is denying Cambodian citizens their basic rights to express their political views and participate in a democratic process without fare of reprisal," said Malaysian Parliament member and APHR chairman Charles Santiago.

Please let me know if you're interested in speaking with leaders of the CNRP.

Thanks, Nick

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